

Patent Claims

1. A method for controlling the power consumption in an electronic appliance which has a data interface which is suitable for data transmissions and which comprises a control line which is provided for data flow control, where the method involves
 - the electronic appliance automatically turning itself on cyclically to a standby state,
 - the control line being used to signal to an application, in connection with the turning-on of the standby state in the electronic appliance, that the data interface has been enabled for data transmission,
 - the electronic appliance registering data transmissions from the application via the data interface,
 - a power-saving mode being automatically turned on in the electronic appliance when no data transmissions from the application via the data interface are registered.

2. The method as claimed in patent claim 1, characterized

- 25 in that the power-saving mode is not turned on after the electronic appliance has not registered any data transmissions via the data interface until after a time which can be predetermined in the electronic appliance has elapsed.

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3. An electronic appliance which has at least the following elements:

- a data interface comprising a control line, which is provided for data flow control, for performing data transmissions,
- 35 means for automatically turning on a standby state in the electronic appliance cyclically,

- means for connecting the turning-on of the standby state in the electronic appliance to the use of the control line to signal to an application that the data interface has been enabled for data transmission,
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- means for registering data transmissions by the application via the data interface,
- means for automatically turning on a power-saving mode in the electronic appliance when no data
10 transmissions from the application via the data interface are registered.

4. The electronic appliance as claimed in patent claim 3,
15 characterized
in that the electronic appliance is a GSM module.

5. The electronic appliance as claimed in either of patent claims 3 and 4,
20 characterized
in that a power-saving mode is provided as the state with the lowest power consumption.

6. The electronic appliance as claimed in one of the preceding patent claims 3 to 5,
25 characterized
in that the data interface is in the form of an RS-232 interface, and the control line is in the form of a clear-to-send control line.